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NEVADA STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION**

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**NEVADA STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
MINORITY/GENDER COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
September 11, 2013**

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**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Burgess at 2:04 p.m.

**Roll Call – Alice Mueller**

Members Present by Phone: Kirby Burgess, Jack Martin, Egan Walker, Lonnie Wright  
Statewide Task Force Members Present by Phone: Calvin Morrison, Thomas Stockard,  
Members Absent: Joel Gutierrez, Noah Jennings, Dawn Lozano, Raymond McKay, Lisa Morris  
Hibbler, Ivet Santiago  
Staff Present by Phone: Pauline Salla, J. Alice Mueller  
Public Present by Phone: Cheri Ely, Lynette Gust,

**Public Comment and Discussion**

There was no public comment.

**Review of Official Minutes from July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Meeting.**

Since there was not a quorum, the minutes from July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013 were tabled until the next meeting.

**Update on Technical Assistance Request– Pauline Salla**

A phone conference with the Burns Institute has been scheduled for September 12, 2013 at 8:30 am. In previous contact with them, they have been intrigued by our request for assistance in conducting the statewide assessment for disparate treatment. The call will give us a clearer idea of when the training can be set up and what will be involved. The goal is to have the training this year since the assessment needs to be completed by March 2014. There have been several extensions granted, but they are not obligated to grant us anymore. The location

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of the training still needs to be determined. There is a chance that it may be joined to the November Quarterly Juvenile Justice Commission Meeting in Las Vegas. That meeting is set for November 21<sup>st</sup>, so the training could be on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

### **Discussion of 2013 Survey Responses – Pauline Salla**

In speaking with Haywood Burns, the survey that was recently conducted was brought up as a source of raw data. Over 200 responses were collected and entered into a spreadsheet. The Burns institute may be able to give us some ideas on how to work with the data which was collected. It is hoped that this data can be used in an effective way to do a needs assessment.

### **Review Composition of Minority/Gender Committee Membership– Kirby Burgess**

The committee composition is taking shape nicely. Some new members have been added and the topic is being kept on the agenda so that discussions can remain open. If there are any recommendations for individuals who could be contacted this is where their names would be brought up. The two newest members were asked to give a brief description of themselves.

Judge Tom Stockard has been a District Judge in the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District for about 14 to 15 months. This is a single judge district so he does everything from felonies to divorces along with juvenile and dependency cases. Prior to his appointment, he served in the District Attorney's office for fourteen years and was in private practice for a number of years before that. He is anxious to work on the Juvenile Justice Commission.

Cheri Ely is the program director of Juvenile Justice for the National Counsel of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. This organization is located in Reno Nevada but is a national organization of judges who are either on the juvenile or family bench. The research division is located in Pittsburg where a lot of national data is collected and archived for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Some of the projects that she is currently working on are the Model Courts Project, the School to Prison Pipeline issues and the Annie Casey Foundations Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative. The National Counsel is also a national training and technical assistance provider for juvenile drug courts.

### **Minority and Gender Brochure– Kirby Burgess**

The Disproportionate Minority Contact brochure was presented to the Quarterly Juvenile Justice Commission meeting in August. Some corrections and ways to improve it were noted; some of which have been implemented. The images used need to have their quality enhanced. This can be achieved by going back to the originals or getting better quality photos from the internet. If the internet is used, care should be taken as in the past some pictures had been deemed stereotyped. Once the brochures are complete and reviewed again, they can be sent to the printers. They will then be made available to stakeholders and their contacts for dissemination.

Commissioner Wright stated that he liked the brochures for being reader friendly. The information explained the subject clearly and in a manner which was accessible to individuals with all levels of educational background.

### **New Business**

Specialist Salla updated the stakeholders on a couple of topics. SB107 was passed at the last legislative session and deals with corrective room restriction or confinement. Her office is going to begin collecting monthly data from all the juvenile detention facilities and state correctional facilities along with any programs that have the opportunity to hold youth securely. These restrictions will be tracked as we are no longer allowed to segregate a youth for over 72 hours.

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This will involve a lot more documentation and tracking; including race and other factors. This data will then be presented to this committee. This will go into effect on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

The other update is about the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) templates. These are statewide templates for use by all juvenile facilities, correctional facilities, state youth correctional facilities, detention centers and county camps. They were rolled out on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. They are to be used by all the facilities to ensure that they're in compliance with the act. The audits will be starting shortly and conducted by outside facilitators who have been certified thru the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA) which is similar to the American Correctional Association (ACA) auditors. Most of them were in fact ACA auditors. The vulnerability assessments will be conducted by her office along with a couple of other team members. The PREA assessment is focused on making sure that there is not disparate treatment for any youth including sexual orientation, race or religion. Her office will begin collecting data on this also. This touches more than just our juvenile facilities, it also touches our community based programs and tribal programs. The roll out is important as federal funds will eventually be tied to PREA compliance thru the Department of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Currently neither Formula nor JABG is tied, but it will be at some point in the future.

Committee Chair Burgess brought up the new law AB217 which concerns background checks on staff in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Commissioner Martin volunteered that he believed it only affected Clark County, or those counties above 700,000. He mentioned that they are currently behind on their background checks, but hope to catch up. They have had some adverse issues with the law which resulted in one person being terminated.

Specialist Salla mentioned that one of the PREA requirements was that all staff that has contact with kids need to go thru a background check which includes the Child Abuse and Neglect Screening (CANS) data base. If there is substantiation, it is identified thru that background check. AB217 may affect Clark County, but the PREA requirement effects are statewide.

### **Comments from Public**

No members of the public were present, and there was no public comment.

### **Set Time, Date and Agenda for Next Meeting**

The next Committee Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 2:00 pm. This will be a phone conference.

Agenda:

Technical Assistance Planning

Review of Minority/Gender Committee Membership Outreach

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m. by Chairman Burgess.